

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 SP-02 L-03 XMB-02 FRB-03 COME-00 /033 W

----- 033162

R 181110Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2223

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 23226

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EINV TH

SUBJECT: MFA DETERMINES CHASE MANHATTAN SUBSIDIARY NOT SUBJECT
TO ALIEN BUSINESS DECREE BECAUSE OF US-THAI AER TREATY

REF: A) BANGKOK 18921 B) BANGKOK 18978

1. SINCE TRANSMITTAL OF AMBASSADOR'S LETTER TO FOREIGN MINISTER
AND EMBASSY NOTE DESCRIBED REF B, ON BEHALF CHASE MANHATTAN
INVESTMENT CO. (THAILAND) LTC. (CMIC), EMBASSY AND LOCAL CHASE
MANHATTAN REPS HAVE HAD SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH
MFA, AND CHASE HAS SUBMITTED SEVERAL DOCUMENTS ATTESTING TO
US NATIONALITY OF MAJORITY OF PARENT COMPANY'S DIRECTORS.
ON AUGUST 16, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MFA'S ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT
TRANSMITTED LETTER TO DIRECTOR GENERAL OF COMMERCE MINISTRY'S
COMMERCIAL REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT, INFORMING HIM THAT ON THE
BASIS OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE RECEIVED FROM THE COMPANY, WHICH
HAD BEEN JOINTLY REVIEWED BY REPS OF THE TWO MINISTRIES,
IT WAS FOUND THAT CMIC QUOTE IS AN AMERICAN COMPANY WHICH
IS ENTITLED TO THE BENEFITS CONFERRED UPON IT BY THE TREATY
OF AMITY AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THAILAND AND THE USA OF
1968. PLEASE BE INFORMED OF THE ABOVE AND PROCEED TO TAKE
APPROPRIATE ACTION. UNQUOTE.

2. CMIC'S LOCAL LEGAL COUNSEL, WHO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION
FOR EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE, IS FOLLOWING MATTER UP WITH
COMMERCIAL REGISTRATION DEPT AND LOCAL POLICE AUTHORITIES
TO ASSURE THAT QUOTE APPRRPRIATE UNQUOTE ACTION IS TAKEN,
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AND WILL KEEP EMBASSY INFORMED. EMBASSY ASSUMES THAT,

EVEN THOUGH DG OF COMMERCIAL REGISTRATION UNDOUBTEDLY LOST
CONSIDERABLE FACE, AS RESULT HIS PRECIPITATE ACTION IN
REQUESTING CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION OF CMIC, THE NECESSARY
STEPS WILL NOW BE TAKEN TO END THE INVESTIGATION. IN ANY
EVENT, MFA'S RULING SETS A PRECEDENT, SINCE THIS IS THE
FIRST TIME EMBASSY HAS USED AER TREATY FOR PROTECTION
AGAINST THREATENED CRIMINAL CHARGES FOR ALLEGED VIOLATION
OF ALIEN BUSINESS DECREE.

3. WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED REPLY FROM MFA TO OUR NOTE
NO. 243, BUT INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF MFA'S LETTER DESCRIBED
ABOVE, RECEIVED FROM CMIC'S LEGAL COUNSEL, BEING SUBMITTED
BY POUCH.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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